PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

TRANSLATION INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 99 412/Wi*			FOR FURTHER ACT	TION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416				
International application No.			International filing date (day/month/year)	Priority date (day/month/year)				
PCT/EP2004/010775			24.09.2004		25.09.2003				
Internatio	nal Patent Classification	(IPC) or natio	onal classification and IPC	,					
A61F13/62									
Applicant NORDENIA DEUTSCHLAND GRONAU GMBH									
	1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.								
2.	This REPORT consists	of a total of _	4	sheets, including	g this cover sheet.				
3.	This report is also accon	npanied by Al	NNEXES, comprising:						
	a. (sent to the d	pplicant and	to the International Burea	u) a total of 6	sheets, as follows:				
	sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative								
	Instructions). sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental								
	Box.								
	b (sent to the I	nternational I	Bureau only) a total of (inc	licate type and number	r of electronic carrier(s))				
					, containing a sequence listing and/or tables				
related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).									
4.	This report contains indi	cations relatir	ng to the following items:						
	Box No. I	Basis of the	report						
	Box No. II	Priority							
	Box No. III	Non-establis	shment of opinion with reg	nment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability					
Box No. IV Lack of unity of in			y of invention						
	Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement								
	Box No. VI	Certain docu	aments cited						
	Box No. VII	Certain defe	cts in the international app	olication					
	Box No. VIII	Certain obse	ervations on the internation	nal application					
Date of su	Date of submission of the demand			te of completion of thi	s report				
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP			Au	thorized officer					
Facsimile No.			Te	lephone No.					

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/010775

Box	No. I	I Basis of the report						
1.		h regard to the language, this report is based on the internation cated under this item.	nal application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise					
		This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:						
		international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))						
		publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)						
		international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/o	or 55.3)					
2.	rece	th regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the eiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to report):						
		the international application as originally filed/furnished						
	\boxtimes	the description:						
		pages 1-5	as originally filed/furnished					
			received by this Authority on					
		<u> </u>	received by this Authority on					
	\boxtimes	the claims:						
			as originally filed/furnished					
		nos.						
			as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19					
			received by this Authority on/filed with the demand					
		nos.*	received by this Authority on					
		the drawings:						
		sheets 1/2-2/2	as originally filed/furnished					
		sheets*	received by this Authority on					
		sheets*	received by this Authority on					
		a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplement	ental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.					
3.		The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:	The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:					
		the description, pages	the description, pages					
			the claims, nos.					
		the drawings, sheets/figs						
		the sequence listing (specify):						
4.	\Box		ments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since					
	ш	they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).						
		the description, pages	_					
		the claims, nos.	the claims, nos.					
		the drawings, sheets/figs	the drawings, sheets/figs					
		the sequence listing (specify):	the sequence listing (specify):					
		any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify):						
*	If ite	em 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "supe	rseded."					

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/010775

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement						
1. S	tatement					
	Novelty (N)	Claims 1-4	_ YES			
		Claims	_ NO			
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1-4	_ YES			
		Claims	_ NO			
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-4	YES			
		Claims				
2. C	Citations and explanations (Rule 7	0.7)				
2.	1. Prior a					
	i. FIIOI ai					
	This report	makes reference to the following				
	documents:					
	D1:	US-B1-6 471 804 (AABERG THOMAS ET AL) 29				
		October 2002 (2002-10-29)				
	D2:	EP-A-0 818 188 (UNI CHARM CORP) 14				
		January 1998 (1998-01-14)				
	D3:	EP-A-0 793 953 (HARTMANN PAUL AG) 10				
		September 1997 (1997-09-10)				
	2. Novelty					
	D1 is regarded as the prior art closest to the					
	subject mat	tter of claim 1. It dislcoses (cf. D1,				
	column 1,	lines 7-17, column 2, lines 20-31, claim				
	1, figure 2	2):				
	a method wh	nerein at a first station, a piece of				
	material is	s joined to a layer of material by means				
	of ultrasor	nic sealing and then, at a second station,				

the entire contact surface is joined by means of

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

ultrasonic sealing. The laminate formed in such a manner can be used in absorbent products in particular.

The subject matter of the amended claim 1 therefore differs from the known method in that the closing strip (or the piece of material) are fixedly joined to the opposing surface by means of cold pressing.

Therefore, the subject matter of claim 1 is novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

The problem to be solved by the present invention can therefore be regarded as that of providing an alternative to ultrasonic sealing.

The solution to this problem as proposed in claim 1 of the present application involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) for the following reasons:

Other methods requiring greater outlay are disclosed in the prior art (cf. D2, column 4, lines 6-51, D3, column 5, lines 12-29), and therefore it would not be obvious for a person skilled in the art to select this method step. Furthermore, the literature contains nothing that suggests selecting this method in particular.

Claims 2-4 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore likewise meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step.